



Bridgemates

Issue No. 12



From the President

My friends,

As President, I have inherited the responsibility of looking after an efficiently run club which my committee and I are taking very seriously. To hear a chance comment by one of our experienced players about the happy atmosphere in this club was gratifying indeed.

As you know, we are a very new committee. On the individual championship day, we were four committee members short for various reasons and assistance to fill in where necessary was requested. My club members “came up trumps” and I was most grateful and impressed with their co-operation. This is evidence of the spirit in which we operate.

I am always “blown away” by the biographies in this newsletter. Andreas’ story is no exception. Congratulations to Andreas and his wife, Anne, for meeting the Dutch Queen and King as well as becoming wonderful Australian citizens. Well done Andreas!



With the festive season approaching, I would like to extend greetings for this happy time and trust you will all receive kindness and affection from those around you.

Buon Natale.....from President Mario.

Upcoming Special Events

TEAMS 2	Wednesday 16 November, 2016
CHRISTMAS PARTY	<p>Friday 25 November at 11.30am</p> <p>Please come along and join in the fun with Bob McArthur as MC assisted by Joanne Eriksen.</p> <p>Prizes for the best Christmas costumes</p> <p>Competitions and lucky spot prizes</p> <p>Wine and soft drink provided along with nibbles and lunch</p> <p>Raffle drawn after lunch</p> <p>\$30.00 Payable in advance by cash/cheque or direct deposit to BCBC Bank Account -- BSB 124-081 Account 10357121</p>

MEET YOUR MEMBERS

Continuing our series of conversations with Bridge Club members

Andreas Flach

Andreas was born in 1929 in the Netherlands East Indies to a beautiful Indonesian mother and Dutch father who had been sent from Holland to work for the Customs Department in Central Java.

The Netherlands East Indies had been part of Holland for 400 years. After WW2, the Indonesian National movement declared Indonesia independent on 17 July 1945. This was not agreed upon by the Dutch Government and a war began which lasted two years. The Indonesian army imprisoned all Dutch and Dutch-Indonesian people. During this two year struggle, the Dutch and Dutch-Indonesian people lost over 15,000 people, far more than during the three years of Japanese occupation.

Netherlands East Indies held many happy memories for Andreas, his two brothers and two sisters until the Japanese occupation when the entire family were interned by the Japanese. Fortunately, all seven survived this horrendous ordeal. Many thousands did not.

After independence in 1949, the family moved back to the Netherlands where Andreas completed his degree in tropical agriculture at a Dutch university.

During this time in Holland, Andreas met his future wife, Anneke. After graduating, Andreas accepted his first job in Indonesia. Anneke married Andreas by proxy. Andreas was working hard in Java, when he received a telegram with the following message: *"10 November 1953: Dearest Dries we marry 19 November 10.30 observe 1 minute silence lots of love Anneke"*.

Andreas and Anne's first two of four children were born in Indonesia.

In 1958, when the Indonesian work was completed, Andreas and Anne moved back to Holland where their third child was born.

The Dutch cold winters inspired the family to move to Ecuador. Here, from 1960 to 1963 Anne was the correspondence teacher for the children as there was no Dutch school.

Andreas was asked to start the banana industry in Suriname, (top of Brazil) a Dutch colony. Baby number four was born here. This was a very successful career for Andreas who saw a flourishing banana industry developed from 1963 to 1970. It was in Suriname on the plantation where the Flach family officially met Queen Juliana and Prince Bernard of the Netherlands.

The Dutch consulate in Brisbane has bestowed this same honour once again on Andreas and Anne when our two local Hibiscus residents were the official guests of Queen Maxima and King Willem Alexander on Friday 4th November, 2016.

What an honour!

In 1970, Andreas, Anne, their two high school



children and two primary school children decided to migrate to a free country. Australia was selected as Suriname with its multi cultural Indian, Negro and Japanese slave background, was seeking independence. This could mean potential upheaval.

For 6 months, the Flach family lived in the Wacol immigration centre. In 1971, Andreas obtained a research job at CSIRO located in Indooroopilly where he worked in cattle tick research until his retirement.

Australia was kind to very energetic, hard working migrants. Andreas worked by day at CSIRO, and assisted Anne who had bought a 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week local corner store. This store catered for the many workers who arrived in their droves to consume the delicious lunches etc. The store prospered for the next five years.

After his retirement from CSIRO, Andreas and Anne moved to Tully to fulfil their own 10 acre tropical plantation dream. Unfortunately, a bad car accident meant Andreas could no longer drive a tractor. Hence, they were forced to sell the Tully property. Andreas and Anne moved back to the Sunshine Coast area where they lived for two years at the Glasshouse Mountains before they settled in at the Hibiscus Retirement Village.

18 years in the Village, bridge, and Bambu occupy a huge part of Andreas' week. The Bambu group was initiated for people who had been forced to leave their birth country is operated totally by Andreas. The Bambu group meets every second Thursday of every month. The meeting is visited by about 40 to 50 people who are happy to keep the Dutch-Indonesian culture alive. The Bambu group enjoy Indonesian food, horticulture, culture, travel to Indonesia every second year as well as a wonderful bimonthly magazine written by Andreas. This is what keeps the special bond alive.

Buderim is fortunate that Anne and Andreas are part of the local community. Australia's gain – Indonesia's loss.

WHO'S WHO IN THE COMMITTEE

President	Mario Cresta
Vice President	Greg Jellis
Secretary	Joan Keeley
Treasurer	Lynda Laffan
Committee:	Daphne Britchford, June Beasley, Murray Schlecht, Sandi Owen, Therese Conroy, Upasana Shanti

Christmas Party



Professional Opinion

Bill: My cardiologist says I can't play bridge.
Tom: Why not? Do you have some kind of heart problem?
Bill: No. He's just played with me enough to know I'm hopeless.



Bridge Songs?

Bridge Over Troubled Water — Travel-with-Goren cruise that stops in Havana, Tripoli and Basra.
It's Not Unusual — Partner's scream after you misinterpret his 2 NT bid.
The Second Time Around — The usual occasion when your aces get trumped.
Somethin' Stupid — Whichever line of play you decide to take.
'Til the End of Time — Normal duration before admitting your bridge mistakes.

Important Rules

Rule of Eleven — The inevitable trick total whenever you bid a slam.
Eight Ever, Nine Never — The status quo whenever you raise 2 NT to 3 NT.
Second Hand Low — The easiest way to lose your aces on defence.
Leading Through Strength — A sure-fire way to make your queens disappear.
What "Richard Says" — Tips that work during lesson deals, but never in real life.



Bridge on Ice

Have you heard that bridge was included as an exhibition sport for the 2008 Winter Olympics? Further, bridge promoters hope it will become a full-fledged sport for the 2018 games! Has everyone lost their mind? How can a mental activity be a sport? And a winter sport, no less. I don't think going down in an ice-cold contract really qualifies.

I can imagine a sports announcer like Jim McKay describing the play of a bridge deal: "And, they're off! U.S.A. jumps out to an early lead... the cards are flying at lightning speed... declarer is on pace to set a world record... it's going to be close... Oh, no! He took finesse and lost to the stiff king... no Gold... they'll have to settle for the Silver."

